

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES

United States Department of Energy State of South Carolina

I. Common Interests

- Completing the cleanup of the nuclear weapons legacy as expeditiously as possible and in compliance with state and federal requirements
- Obtaining a commitment to predictable and adequate funding to complete the cleanup
- Optimizing the dollars within each site to ensure a program that addresses risk reduction, compliance and completing the cleanup
- Continuing investments in science and technology
- Finding ways, where feasible and cost effective, to integrate our waste management challenges among sites
- Ensuring safe and efficient transportation of nuclear and hazardous waste
- Ensuring credible and flexible regulatory oversight needed to accomplish real environmental cleanup results
- Recognition that our sites are vast natural resource assets
- Commitment to protect our groundwater resources

II. How we can work together to achieve our common interests

- Ongoing and active consultation and communication between individual Governors and the Secretary and among the collective group
- Timely and complete sharing of information and response to issues of concern
- Commitment to Executive involvement and communication to resolve disputes, in particular, in advance of initiation of any legal action
- Development of mechanisms to ensure that individual decisions are not made in a vacuum and that the cumulative impact of these decisions can be easily understood
- Better education of the public, the Congress, and the Administration on the

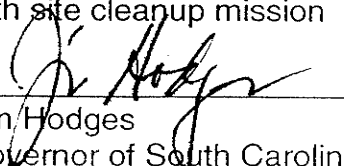
historic and continued importance of our sites and the need for predictable and adequate funding to complete the cleanup

- Commitment to use land and other assets for other purposes
- Greater attention paid to the future role and mission of each site and its place within the overall complex
- Development of better mechanisms for interaction with stakeholders


III. Issues of specific interest to the State of South Carolina

The DOE and the State of South Carolina will continue to work together to achieve the following goals:

- Determine a shipping schedule for transuranic waste
- Work together to define a long-term mission and a long-term comprehensive plan for the Savannah River Site (SRS) consistent with the needs of DOE, the State, and surrounding communities
- Ensure that cleanup activities stay on schedule, including the pursuit of sufficient funding to maintain the schedule
- Ensure a disposition path for high level waste
- Find mutually acceptable solutions to disposal of low level waste and mixed low level waste
- Develop a plan for use/closure of the canyons that addresses the needs of DOE, the State and the surrounding communities
- Assure funding adequate to support new missions and offsite waste/materials processing, handling and storage
- Ensure that SRS is treated equitably in allocation of Congressional "general reductions"
- Provide adequate grant funding to support state regulatory and oversight programs
- Establish a plan for decontamination and decommissioning that is integrated with site cleanup mission


Jim Hodges
Governor of South Carolina

Date: 9-10-99


Bill Richardson
Secretary of Energy

Date: 9-10-99